

THE
AUSTRALIAN

U.F.O.

BULLETIN



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WELCOME

The Society welcomes reports of unusual phenomena. These are evaluated on their own merits and if requested are kept in the strictest confidence.

The Society exchanges information with similar Australian and overseas organisations, as well as scientists, and disseminates to the public information on local, interstate and overseas developments in its quarterly publication, the "Australian U.F.O. Bulletin", which is posted to all members.

All communications should be addressed per the return address shown on the rear of this bulletin.

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

For details of your membership renewal, refer to the month/year coding on the address label of your latest bulletin. This indicates the last bulletin for which you are financial - we would appreciate your renewal by the date shown.



Victorian U.F.O. Research Society

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EDITORIAL

March 1994

VUFORS has members and subscribers in most of the towns in Victoria as well as a substantial readership in other states of the country and overseas. We do have members who keep us informed with regard to UFO activity in their area; however, this co-operation could be multiplied if more took an interest and active participation, that of a member instead of a subscriber and recommend friends to join VUFORS.

More and more UFO organisations overseas are exchanging publications with us, giving permission to print information gathered on a world-wide scale and present it to our readership with full credit given to the source.

Referrals of reports from Government Agencies are increasing. For example, most of the cases mentioned in our last few Bulletins came through the Department of Meteorology. It is unfortunate that some of these reports originated with pranksters who apparently were carrying out some "scientific experiments". We have been informed that there is a possibility that similar exercises have been carried out in parts of New South Wales and Queensland. Only a small percentage of scientists is giving any effective support to UFO research. This is a pity as their skills could be put to very good purpose in helping to solve "the riddle of the skies". Unfortunately, the majority appears to be loath to study UFO reports or let their colleagues learn of their interest for fear of ridicule. We would like to mention however, that we do appreciate assistance given by members who are taking an active interest in keeping us informed of UFO events in their areas.



**Have You Seen A Press Cutting That
VUFORS May Be Interested In ?
Please Send It To Us
We Rely On You, The Membership**

✉ ➡ VUFORS



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

(Air Force Office)

Ref AF 84 3508 Pt1 (18)

Ph: (06) 2652422

PO Box E33
Queen Victoria Terrace
Canberra ACT 2600

Honorary Secretary
Victorian UFO Research Society
PO Box 43
MOORABBIN VIC 3189

4 January 1994

Dear Honorary Secretary

UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS: REVISED RAAF POLICY

Recently the RAAF reviewed its policy regarding Unusual Aerial Sightings (UAS).

In future, the RAAF will not accept reports of UAS and will not attempt to assign cause or to comment on the reliability of particular sightings. Members of the public seeking to report UAS to the RAAF will be referred by the RAAF to civilian research organisations such as your own.

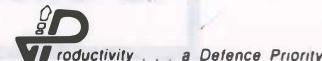
The number of reports made to the RAAF in the past decade had declined significantly, which may indicate that organisations such as yours are better known and are meeting the community's requirements.

A copy of the new RAAF policy concerning the handling of UAS is enclosed for your information and for dissemination amongst your members.

Brett Biddington

B. Biddington
Wing Commander
for
Chief of the Air Staff

Enclosure: RAAF Policy on Unusual Aerial Sightings



Enclosure 1 to
AF 84 3508 Pt1 (18)
Dated 4 Jan 94

RAAF POLICY: UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

For many years the RAAF has been formally responsible for handling Unusual Aerial Sightings (UAS) at the official level. Consideration of the scientific record suggests that, whilst not all UAS have a ready explanation, there is no compelling reason for the RAAF to continue to devote resources to recording, investigating and attempting to explain UAS.

The RAAF no longer accepts reports on UAS and no longer attempts assignment of cause or allocation of reliability. Members of the community who seek to report a UAS to RAAF personnel will be referred to a civil UFO research organisation in the first instance. Known organisations are listed at Annex A to this policy.

Some UAS may relate to events that could have a defence, security, or public safety implication, such as man-made debris falling from space or a burning aircraft. Where members of the community may have witnessed an event of this type they are encouraged to contact the police or civil aviation authorities.

Dated: December 1993

? Are You Financial ?
Check Your Address Label

ON THE UFO TRAIL

By Paul Norman

There were events occurring during the year 1973 which I will bring to the attention of VUFORS members, subscribers and readers. These events are already known to our 'long-time' members, but not to people who have more recently become interested in the subject. In 1973 Dr.J.Allen Hynek came to Australia to attend an Astronomical Conference. Before returning to the United States, he took advantage of the trip, to visit with UFO researchers who were personally acquainted with the main witnesses of UFO encounters in this part of the world.

One of the most outstanding cases was that of Tom Drury, Deputy Director of Civil Aviation in New Guinea. Back in August 23, 1953. Tom Drury, with his wife and two children, observed an elongated object emerge from a cloud and fly away much faster than an aircraft. This may have been a similar type of object and incident as photographed by Roy Manifold, only 21 minutes before Frederick Valentich flew over Cape Otway and reported an object just before he disappeared, never to be heard of again. The difference from the Drury Case was, the object Roy Manifold photographed was still partially camouflaged within the cloud or vapour mist surrounding the object.

Never-the-less, the Drury film, according to official investigators, shows the object flying out of the cloud at fast speed. The Drury film

was sent to the U.S. Air Force after nearly a year of pussy-footing about the bush and was finally classified as unknown and returned to Australia, with frames missing.

Roy Russell, former President of the Queensland UFO Research Group, in Brisbane, had been personally acquainted with Tom Drury for many years. It was Roy and his wife Pearl, who arranged a meeting in their home for Dr.Hynek to meet Drury for an interview and details.

No acknowledgment has ever been made of Australian UFO researchers, Mr.and Mrs. Russell for their hospitality in arranging this important contact concerning this outstanding Australian case.

In September of 1973, VUFORS arranged a meeting for Dr.Hynek at his request, with the Rev. William Gill, a key witness to the series of sightings which occurred in New Guinea in June 1959, where humanoids were seen standing on the "deck" of an Unidentified Hovering Object. A well-known case familiar to researchers throughout the world. (Rev.Gill's lecture to VUFORS is on sale by this Society.)

With the generous consent of Mr.Norris senior and Mrs. Norris, to lend their office space and lounge at 100 Collins Street, Melbourne, for

ON THE UFO TRAIL

the weekend, the President, Mr.Peter Norris LLB and Vice President, Mrs.Judith Magee, set to work to arrange for witnesses to be present, recorders for taping interviews in quiet areas, and refreshments and meals for those staying, were also organised by VUFORS ladies. This combination reception was successful in setting up a situation in which Dr.Hynek could meet and in comfort discuss with witnesses of close encounters and cases in which he was personally interested. VUFORS also provided Dr.Hynek with a prestigious venue, The Dallas Brooks Hall, in Melbourne, for his lecture to the general public, and even though there was an ushers' strike that evening, the attendance was the largest audience of his Australian tour. Prior to Hynek's visit to Australia, VUFORS was instrumental in promoting a meeting with another key witness of an outstanding Australian case.

This was the encounter which had occurred on 15th December, 1954. when Shamus O'Farrell, who at that time was a Lieutenant, flying a Naval Sea Fury fighter aircraft to Nowra Airbase in New South Wales, when two circular objects took up formation either side of the Sea Fury. The pilot called Nowra Control, where radar showed three objects flying together. O'Farrell identified his aircraft by flying an instructed flight pattern. The two objects were much faster than the Navy fighter and disappeared to the north east.

The O'Farrell encounter was one of the cases Hynek wanted to check and to interview the pilot. Peter Norris, who was VUFORS President at the time, contacted O'Farrell

through his contacts to secure the pilot's co-operation. Not only was the pilot willing to meet with Hynek, but was encouraged to do so, by Sir Arthur Tange, then Secretary of the Australian Department of Defence.

At the time of his encounter, Shamus O'Farrell was a Royal Australian Navy Pilot, but had been promoted prior to Hynek's visit. Before his retirement he served as Naval Attaché to Washington with the rank of Commodore. He was certainly an outstanding, credible witness.

In 1975, the book entitled The Edge of Reality was published by the Henry Regnery Company, of 180 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. 60601. USA. The Authors of the book are Dr.J.Allen Hynek and Jacques Vallee. On page 58 of the book, a gross mis-statement concerning the O'Farrell Case was attributed to Hynek, but since Vallee did most of the Yeoman effort, part of the statement may have been 'edited'.

The mis-statement gives the impression to be conveyed: Hynek wrote

"when I was in Canberra I talked to the Chief of the Royal Australian Air Force Intelligence and his Chief Lieutenant or Aide got me aside and said that he was flying a Sea Fury one night and gave the details".

The fact is, the meeting was ARRANGED and was the main reason for Hynek's visit to Canberra.

The statement illustrates the attitude of some individuals in the scientific community to

avoid, where possible, giving credit to humble ufologists from whom a vast amount of assistance, contacts and information, originates. Many examples of this attitude are reflected in *Forbidden Science* published by North Atlantic Books, 2800 Woolsey Street, Berkley, California. 94705.USA.

Page 156 of *Forbidden Science*, Vallee states that

"during his trip to England, Hynek met the major British ufologists, men like Gordon Creighton, Charles Bowen and Le Poer Trench, most of them, he says, are literary minds who 'seem ready to believe anything'.

All this remains at the level of general discussion around the table. There was no genuine scientist in the whole bunch, he told me. This makes our own role and responsibility here all the more significant."

That statement would be justified if either Hynek or Vallee had solved the problem of the whither, whence and why of the UFO. THEY HAVE NOT and they have been in a far better situation than the majority of ufologists, to have solved the UFO enigma and produce evidence

of having done so!

However, their efforts have been more active than the vast majority of the scientific community, who are at about the same stage of ufology as their forerunners were during the 1800's, when ridiculing Louis Pasteur about his invisible zoo of bacteria and germs. They could not see the germs therefore they didn't exist. (A Carl Sagan and Phillip Klass type concept with reference to UFO's)

I have just completed reading *Forbidden Science* and note that Vallee considers many of his acquaintances as 'inferior', including those who have given valuable assistance and information. Perhaps someone should write a book on forbidden credits!

Fortunately, this attitude does not apply to all scientists in the field, some of whom do appreciate co-operation from ufologists and in this edition, we reprint a recent letter to Gordon Creighton from a scientist who expresses his appreciation for the work of the Flying Saucer Review and gives an outline of research now in progress in the Ukraine.

MAILBAG

UFO Concealed in Cloud?

Dear Sir,— I have been interested in your subject for many years but only now am I writing in for details of your journal.

During the 1960s and 1970s, I — and also many of my friends — saw from time to time a number of strange things. In particular I recall — and I have never before reported this to anybody — that, around about 1968, I saw an object which appeared to me to possibly be generating its own sort of cloud-cover, or using existing cloud to hide in.

The object was in the sky above Southampton Water, between Fawley and Southampton Dock, and I viewed it from a tower block of flats.

As I say, many of us observed strange things during those years. One friend even claimed to have seen a UFO land at Cholderton during the 1970s. But of course, like the rest of us, he never reported it to anybody.

Yours faithfully,
Richie Bond,
34b St. Mark's Road,
London W10.
April 12, 1993.

NOTE BY EDITOR. We have not seen mention of this lately, but in the early days, especially in the 1950s, we saw a number of such reports in which witnesses spoke of craft or of objects which seemed either to use cloud-cover in which to conceal themselves or which possibly generated their own cloud-cover from which to spy on us.

RESEARCH IN THE UKRAINE

RESEARCH INSTITUTE ON ANOMALOUS PHENOMENA (RIAP) P.O. Box 4684, 310022 Kharkov-22, Ukraine

Mr. Gordon Creighton, December 3, 1992.
FSR Publications Ltd.,
P.O. Box No. 162,
High Wycombe,
Bucks HP13 5DZ.

Dear Mr. Creighton,

Thank you for the continued despatch of FSR. The journal proved to be so much interesting and informative, as ever. I ought to say your Review has been for years and remains at present a very important communication medium in the field of ufology!

This year the Kharkov-based aerospace company "Vertical" has established here the Research Institute on Anomalous Phenomena (RIAP), whose main aim is to study the UFO problem on a serious scientific level, trying to revise and improve standards of quality both of empirical data and theoretical interpretations of these data. You will find here enclosed a RIAP Information Leaflet, describing the Institute's goals and structure in some detail. Please feel free, if you wish, to distribute this information among your friends and colleagues who might be interested in it. I would also be most grateful if you could consider the possibility of publishing a shortened version of the Information

Leaflet (which is enclosed here under the title "RIAP: Some Basic Data") in the Letters Column of your splendid *Flying Saucer Review*.

I am happy to inform you that the Scientific Council of the Institute, knowing of your outstanding contribution toward advancing ufological studies and your very many important publications in this field, has elected you an Honorary Fellow of RIAP (please see the enclosed copy of the Resolution of the Scientific Council, dated December 1, 1992). Your certificate will be sent to you in a few weeks.

As an Honorary Fellow of our Institute you will be kept informed as to our working plans and scientific results. We are going to publish a *RIAP Bulletin* (in English), as well as a scientific journal *Anomalistics and Astronomy* (in Russian). The Bulletin will be sent out to all RIAP Fellows free of charge, and any RIAP Fellow will have the right, if he wishes, to subscribe to the Journal at a reduced rate. No regular dues for Honorary Fellows are envisaged, but any help to the Institute in its activities will be highly appreciated.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to wish you and your family a happy Christmas and a very prosperous New Year!

Sincerely yours, Vladimir V. Rubtsov RIAP
Director

RESEARCH INSTITUTE ON ANOMALOUS PHENOMENA (RIAP) Kharkov, Ukraine Director: Dr. Vladimir V. Rubtsov

Scientific Council: A.V. Arkhipov, M.S., Astronomy (Secretary); A.V. Beletsky, M.A., History (Vice-Chairman); P.I. Kuliniuk, Ph.D., Biology (Member); Yu.N. Morozov, Ph.D., Folklore studies (Member); Yu. V. Platov, Ph.D., Geophysics (Member); V.V. Rubtsov, Ph.D., Philosophy (Chairman); V.G. Tupalo, Ph.D., Aerospace Engineering (Member).
Advisory Board: E.A. Ermliov, Ph.D., Physics (UFO problem); V.N. Fomenko, Ph.D., Physics (UFO problem); Yu.A. Fomin, M.S., Engineering (UFO problem); L.M. Gindilis, Ph.D., Astronomy (SETI problem); A.F. Pugach, Ph.D., Astronomy (UFO & SETI problems); A.D. Ursul, Ph.D., Philosophy (SETI problem); V.K. Zhuravlev, Ph.D., Physics (Tunguska Explosion); A.V. Zolotov, Ph.D., Geophysics (Tunguska Explosion).

RIAP has been established in 1992 by the VERTICAL Aerospace Company. It is an independent research body, aimed at scientific studies in the fields of the UFO problem and non-classical SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence). The Institute makes its investigations in strict conformity to requirements of the scientific method and in close collaboration with the CIS Academy of Cosmonautics and the Russian Academy of Sciences. It is engaged in posing and solving specific problems, within assigned terms, under particular

financing (which can be internal, from the Institute's own budget, and/or external, obtained from organizations, interested in these investigations).

RIAP has been conceived as a kind of "crystallization center" of problem-oriented teams of researchers and scientific trends. When carrying out its investigations, it also involves scientists of universities and research institutions in cooperation under contracts. All this provides a combination of flexibility with ability to concentrate specialists in various disciplines on chosen directions of research.

UFO Studies

The UFO problem consists of two main subproblems: that of the real existence of the "genuine UFOs" (GUFOs), i.e. of objects and phenomena which do defy conventional explanations, and that of their origin. Some specific features of this problem essentially distinguish it among the problems usually dealt with by the sciences. The principal "tool" here is man detecting by his sense-organs anomalous and pseudoanomalous objects. The individual characteristics of a witness, his (her) quality of sight, attention, ability to remember the essential traits of a phenomenon witnessed and to correctly and consciously relate them have certainly a bearing on the informativeness and precision of a report. In general, the whole body of reports on UFOs is highly heterogeneous in these respects.

Equally, if not more, heterogeneous is the researchers' community. Some UFO bodies (such as MUFON, CUFOS, FUFOR, CEI, CUN, to name just a few) are really professional organizations, deeply involved in serious research work in this field. But many amateur associations (both in the CIS* and in the Western countries) have in fact nothing to do with science, producing a permanent noise which provokes the scientific community to consider UFO studies as a waste of time. This does not mean, of course, that science and scientists are always right in their reluctance to examine the data available, but makes such an attitude more understandable. The "anomalist" studies are lacking in the "quality standards", and those still existent do not conform, as a rule, to the general scientific criteria.

In the past few decades an evident progress has been made in collecting and analyzing raw data on UFO observations. There are good reasons to assume that genuine UFOs really do exist. However, their nature still remains an open question which can hardly be solved in the present circumstances. The existing body of UFO reports simply does not allow specialists to come to any definite conclusion.

To open the way to the solution of the UFO problem, it should be posed as a normal scientific problem, in complete conformity to the cognitive standards of science. However the problem of unidentified flying objects is not wholly in the scope of any of the established scientific disciplines. Therefore, it is to be divided into narrow monodisciplinary problems which could be developed methodologically and rigorously with providing efficient interdisciplinary coordination. Elaboration of these problems can and will be of much use for science and technology even irrespective of whether or not GUFOs indeed represent a fundamentally new phenomenon.

This is the purpose for which RIAP has been

set up. The founders of the Institute proceed from the concept of physical reality of genuine UFOs and our ability to investigate them with "normal" scientific methods and equipment. Detailed investigation of GUFOs by means of radiolocation, atmospheric optics, etc., and of supposed anomalous object landing sites by methods of geology, geo-physics, geochemistry is expected to yield data on various aspects of the phenomenon. It is very essential to organize efficient gathering and processing of instrumental ("regularized") information on UFO sightings. This information will provide a basis for a complete picture of the phenomenon and its theoretical models.

The principal trends of researches of the Institute in the UFO field are as follows:

1. Development of methods and strategies of active monitoring of UFOs by means of radar, optical, infra-red and other detection systems.
2. Instrumental studies of supposed landing sites, impacts on biological systems and UFO samples.
3. Creation of an efficient system of reconstruction of a real anomalous event on the basis of witnesses' testimonies.
4. Creation of a unified UFO data base and a computer expert system to identify GUFOs.
5. Development of physical models of GUFOs.
6. Psychophysiological investigations of contactees and abductees.
7. Studies in the history of Soviet ufology.

SETI Studies

During the last 30 years scientific searches for ETI have been realized mainly in the field of radio astronomy. Certain theoretical models of supposed ETI-signals, as well as methods of detecting the signals, have been worked out, and some experiments have been conducted—unfortunately, without any positive results. It is widely believed, nonetheless, that we are to continue the search for repetitive sequences of narrow-band radio or optical pulses transmitted from the outskirts of Solar-like stars. But is this "classical" approach the only possible way of the ETI quest? It is hardly so. In fact, we cannot consciously choose the optimal SETI strategy only on the basis of purely theoretical considerations. Some alternative (or non-classical) approaches to this problem may have even a greater potential than the classical strategy. One can classify these approaches into the following three groups:

1. Search for casual external manifestations of technological activities of advanced cosmic civilizations, such as broad-band and/or sporadic radio emissions, infra-red radiation, gamma rays, etc.
2. Search for alien artifacts (space bases, interstellar probes, starships, various technical devices, etc., or their remnants) in the Solar System—on the surfaces of planets and

satellites, or even in Outer Space.

3. Search for similar artifacts, as well as for other possible traces of past and/or recent extraterrestrial visits, on the Earth.

RIAP contributes to all these research directions. In particular, its SETI Department, headed by A.V. Arkhipov, is engaged in analysis of infrared and microwave sky maps, with the object to detect highly evolved ETIs, and some interesting findings have already resulted from this work. Besides, the program "Search for Alien Artifacts on the Moon" (SAAM) is being carried out. This program includes:

- a) search for sunlight reflections from flat (mirror-like) surfaces of hypothetical ET objects (say, reconnaissance devices monitoring the Earth);
- b) search for other probable artificial extraterrestrial phenomena on the Lunar surface;
- c) examination of the possibility of interaction between the terrestrial and extraterrestrial civilizations on the Moon;
- d) simulation of probable ETI strategies for the Moon.

These investigations employ both the existing catalogues of Lunar Transient Phenomena (LTP) and the data obtained by the network of LTP observers that has been recently set up specially for this purpose and involves at present a group of competent observers in Ukraine, Russia and Byeloruss. The SAAM program appears to be especially topical in the light of the new plans for Lunar missions which are being developed by the space agencies of the USA and Japan.

RIAP Structure, Publications, Financing

The Institute staff consists of RIAP Fellows—the scientists and scholars, permanently employed by the institute, and RIAP Contributing Fellows, who are temporarily engaged under contracts. They are distinguished specialists in physics, astronomy, history, psychology, and other disciplines.

RIAP Honorary Fellow is an honorary title, conferred by the Scientific Council of the Institute upon researchers who have made a valuable contribution to anomalistic studies. The Honorary Fellows are invited—if they wish—to express their opinions on RIAP plans and directions of research, to propose new problems, worthy of examination, to participate in RIAP research work, etc.

Formally RIAP is divided into four Departments: 1) Ufological Department; 2) SETI Department; 3) Historical Department; 4) Information Department. But the main *research* unit is a problem-oriented team which is specially created to work on a mono- or interdisciplinary problem. Such a team is headed by a leading specialist who is wholly responsible for the quality of its work to the Scientific Council and Director of the Institute.

The latter ones manage RIAP, make its plans, allocate its funds and supervise the work of the



Dr. Rubtsov

problem-oriented teams. When forming the working plans, they consult the Advisory Board which comprehends a number of outstanding specialists in anomalistic fields from Ukraine, Russia and other CIS countries.

RIAP is starting two special periodicals: the journal "*Anomalistics and Astronomy*" (in Russian) and the newsletter "*RIAP Bulletin*" (in English).

The budget of the Institute is formed from the following sources: subsidies of VERTICAL; payments for research works, performed by RIAP for other organizations; grants and donations. Thanks to the VERTICAL Aerospace Company, the Institute has got a sufficient funding in the Ukrainian currency, which enabled the beginning of its research activities. However, some (limited in the number, but important) equipment, materials and services may be obtained here mainly or even exclusively for dollars or another hard currency, not for Russian roubles or Ukrainian kuponos. The lack of these means (however small) impeded considerably the work of RIAP.

In this connection, the *Scientific Council of the Institute appeals to the anomalistic community of the United Kingdom and other foreign countries for any possible donations in a free convertible currency*. Any financial help on your part will be most highly appreciated and will serve for the benefit of our common field of study, promoting its further development.

These donations may be sent here by money transfer through the Credit Lyonnais Bank, (P.O. Box 81, 84-94 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC1 4LX), correspondents account 0114100100100 of Commercial Bank "Promin", payable to Vladimir V. Rubtsov, Chernishevskogo 88/66, Kharkov 310023, Ukraine.

The Scientific Council is also very much interested in establishing contacts and collaboration between RIAP and serious British anomalistic bodies, journals, researchers. For further details please write to: RIAP, P.O. Box 4684, 310022 Kharkov-22, Ukraine.

* Note by Editor. CIS = Commonwealth of Independent States (the new name for the old "USSR") ■

FROM RUSSIA WITH POTENTIAL

At VUFORS we are always interested in new magazines which cover wholly or in part the subject of ufology.

Most of these magazines originate in the English speaking countries or Western Europe and we were therefore surprised to receive last year an English language publication from Russia. Founded by Moscow mathematician Alexander Avshalumov '*AURA - Z*' is published quarterly in English, Russian, Spanish, Italian and French and covers ufology, bigfoot research and other phenomena.

It is not within the scope of VUFORS to comment on the other subjects in the first edition of this 98 page magazine but the three articles on UFOs were thorough and fascinating in content. Of particular interest was Lev Chulkov's history of UFO research in the former Soviet Union and the restrictions placed on researchers by a repressive regime.

Over the years there have been some excellent UFO sightings, including landings, in Russia and if '*AURA - Z*' continues to publish them, we believe the magazine has great potential.

VUFORS members wishing to inspect the magazine should contact our Treasurer, Clive Yates at the March 7 Discussion Evening.

QUOTE :

Truth will always be truth regardless of lack of understanding, disbelief or ignorance.

W.C. Stone

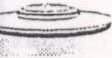
VUFORS Book Sale!

The sale of the UFO book library continues. Additional titles will be added to the collection which will be on display in the supper room after the 7th of March meeting.

MUFORUM

VOL. 1, NO. 4 • MUTUAL UFO NETWORK • LOS ANGELES

• SEPTEMBER 1993



1993 Sightings

UFOLOG

by Bill Hamilton
Director of Investigations
MUFON-LA

UFO Sightings continue unabated all over the world. Here are some of the UFO sightings that have been reported to MUFON or other reporting agencies since the beginning of 1993.

UFOLOG 930121 - On January 21, 1993 at 5:30 p.m. a 47-year old part-time secretary and her son observed a UFO emit highly strange balls of light for 30 minutes in Shalimar, Florida. The object looked like a helicopter without a rotor.

UFOLOG 930127 - On January 27, 1993 a man observed a light in the shape of a crescent that was 150 to 200 feet in length in Oklahoma City. The huge yellow-orange light was within 500 feet of the witness at an altitude of approximately 180 feet. The object was moving away no faster than 30 mph due west.

UFOLOG 930131 - Two Sheriff's deputies followed an unidentified bright light for about 20 miles in Dodge County, Wisconsin.

UFOLOG 930208 - A dazzling star-like triangular-shaped craft has been seen and videotaped over DeKalb County, Alabama on February 8th. DeKalb County has been the site of numerous cattle mutilations in recent months. The mutilations have been accompanied by a rash of UFO and helicopter sightings on Sand Mountain.

IF UFO'S ARE REAL, WHY DON'T THEY LAND ON THE WHITE HOUSE LAWN? AND OTHER ASSORTED QUESTIONS YOU'D THOUGHT NO ONE WOULD EVER ANSWER

by Paul Garson
Director of Research, MUFON-L.A.

The answer to the question voiced in the title is... "There wasn't enough room!"

FACT: Although officially "explained" by the Air Force as "thermal inversions and tricks of the eye", over a hundred UFO's buzzed the White House and the Capitol Building in July of 1952, literally flying in formations back and forth across the nation's capitol for hours on end. The White House lawn simply could not have accommodated them all!

The large-scale display over the country's capitol is a documented fact. Why has it slipped from public consciousness? Do we as a nation suffer from faulty memories or is it that we accept confabulated explanations (thermal inversions, swamp gas, etc.) of unknown phenomena so our fragile framework of reality can remain, like a house of cards, somehow intact.

Is there a "conspiracy" by the news media to keep the truth from being known? Perhaps the L.A. Times, the New York Times, the Washington Post and other major newspapers are concerned about tarnishing their image with the much ridiculed and maligned subject of Ufology, except in a few rare cases more recently. However, the pervading American mindset, at least officially, has been to "downgrade, debunk, and tranquilize" the subject of UFO's for more than 40 years.

A day-by-day examination of other newspapers, some relatively small and obscure because of geography and population, points to an entirely different reality, that contrary to official and official propaganda, UFO sightings have not waned, but on the contrary continue to appear with relatively high frequency over a wide area of the country. The difference may be in the reporting whereas in the past such derision was heaped on witnesses that they often kept their mouths shut for fear of harassment, but now that atmosphere has changed...somewhat.

The bottom line is that sightings, some of "high strangeness," have continued to occur on an almost daily basis in the U.S. Naturally many sightings can be explained as natural phenomena or misidentification of celestial objects or aircraft,

See WHITE HOUSE

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See UFOLOG



UFO LOG from p. 12

UFOLOG 930224 - On the evening of February 24th, a housewife, her two children, and another child spotted a large black triangle hovering near Sierra Highway and Avenue I in Lancaster, California. The huge, silent object sported clusters of red and white lights. The object appeared to descend over the housewife's Van when she gunned it to get away. Upon looking back, the object had disappeared from view.

UFOLOG 9304 - The San Luis Valley in Colorado is heating up again according to investigative journalist Christopher O'Brien. Numerous UFO sightings and cattle mutilations have been reported from residents. Several residents of Crestone have reported seeing mysterious lights cross over the Sangre De Cristo Mountains. On February 11th and 12th, a Crestone resident claimed he saw a bright white light come over the

mountains. A bell-shaped metallic object was seen outside the town of Mosca. During the third week of February a man parked in a campground claimed he saw his car lit up by a bright beam of light.

UFOLOG 930324 - The Gulf Breeze, Florida, UFOs are still active. Eager skywatchers gathered at Shoreline Park in March to watch a brilliant Ruby Red light glowing in the Southern sky. The UFO pulsed and moved Southeast, turning white and green.

If you would like to become a UFO Field Investigator for MUFON and learn the latest techniques for gathering evidence on the greatest phenomena of our time, or report your own UFO sighting(s), call the MUFON-LA HOTLINE Number:
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WHITE HOUSE from p. 12
but others point to a solid occurrence not in compliance with accepted "norms," i.e. the object and/or occupants are not of this earth/time frame/dimension or whatever their origin.

It is a matter of most serious proportions...a situation as real as it gets, despite official efforts to fog, obfuscate or disinform on the subject. Just as you supposedly can't fool all the people all the time, people can't be seeing thermal inversions, Venus or "space debris" all the time either.



The Greek Sourcerer is an item previously published in a VUFORS publication September, 1967 edition.

The Greek saucerer

From VICTOR WALKER in Athens

A RETIRED professor of international fame, who used to play violin duets with Albert Einstein, believes flying saucers are planning an invasion of Earth.

Paul Santorini, whose pioneering work helped in the development of radar, the fuses for the Hiroshima atom bomb and the napalm bomb, came out of a two-year retirement to lecture to the Greek Astronautical Society and to give an interview to Athens Radio.

Born in Odessa 73 years ago, Professor Santorini is not among the lunatic fringe of scientists attracted by the publicity potential of flying saucer investigation.

A fellow of the New York Academy of Sciences, he rates a six-inch entry in the International Who's Who.

He is the holder of two basic patents of the guidance system adopted by the U.S.

for its Nike missiles. He has represented Greece at 23 international scientific congresses and is the author of 190 scientific papers. His decorations include the two highest Greek orders, those of George I and the Phoenix.

Professor Santorini hesitated for several years before plunging into the flying saucer controversy.

During a planned half-hour interview that stretched into a three-hour conversation at his home, the professor attributed to flying saucers activity the great New York blackout of November 9, 1965, and two smaller but similarly unexplained power failures in the eastern United States and Mexico about the same time.

All three blackouts coincided with peak flying saucer activity in the areas affected, with saucers cruising along the power lines.

Professor Santorini said that there were two possibilities concerning "the beings

who visit earth in flying saucers, against which earth had "no possibility of defense."

First, "if these beings are of about the same biological construction as us, they cannot come from outside the system of our own sun."

Second, "if these beings come from outside our solar system, then their bodily construction must be entirely different from ours."

Professor Santorini said his own observations of flying saucers over Athens, and his subsequent investigations, had led him to believe that flying saucers were currently engaged in surveying earth, taking back with them plant and animal samples.

The inference to be drawn was that an invasion might be coming.

Professor Santorini attributed to three factors the world blanket of secrecy cast over flying saucer activity.

Since then, he charged, Greece had joined the "world conspiracy" to deny that the objects regularly visiting earth were flying saucers.

● Civil authorities sought to deny the existence of flying saucers because "when earth is invaded there is certain to be panic."

● And the churches were against saucers because of their effect on the doctrine of creation.

Professor Santorini's own personal experiences of flying saucers came in 1947, when the Greek Army supplied him with a team of engineers to investigate what were believed to be Russian missiles flying over Greece.

"We established they were not missiles, but before we could do more the army authorities, after conferring with Pentagon officials, ordered the observations to discontinue," he said.

Since then, he charged, Greece had joined the "world conspiracy" to deny that the objects regularly visiting earth were flying saucers.

UFO'S ARE NOT "MADE IN AMERICA"

by Paul Garson
Director of Research, MUFON-LA

UFOs show no particular inclination to nationality or politics, for that matter, time and space, at least as we comprehend it at this time. UFO's have been cropping up in other countries besides the U.S. for quite some time. There's even a report written by one of Alexander the Great's chroniclers wherein it was recorded that at a certain battle between Alexander's army and a Persian force, the war elephants stampeded when several "flaming shields" swooped down over the battle scene, effectively ending the day's activities for both sides.

More recently, an incident occurred in Costa Rica (April, 1992) which involved a UFO and a power outage. We're not talking just a few homes blazed out, but an entire country! Witnesses watched a UFO literally "drain" the power from one of the country's major hydroelectric facilities. Did we hear of this on CNN? And does anyone remember the great New York City blackout?

The article is reprinted in its entirety from the TICO TIMES, April 3, 1992 - Costa Rica

'Tamale'-Type UFO Blamed for Blackout

STAFF REPORT

AN unidentified flying object (UFO) using what officials describe as a "tractor beam" sapped electrical energy from the Arenal hydroelectric plant early Thursday morning, causing a nationwide blackout that lasted half an hour, officials said.

"It was the most incredible thing I ever saw," said Arenal plant manager Ingenuo Tomapelo. "The thing just hovered there for several minutes shining this tractor beam down onto the main generator."

Tomapelo said he witnessed the event from the window of the plant's control room where he watched helplessly as the gages registered dropping energy output.

"It looked like a Tamal, just like the kind my grandmother used to make, except that it glowed," said Tomapelo. "They drained all our power in a matter of minutes."

NATIONAL Emergency Commission President Jorge Trejos said the commission received reports of UFO sightings from the Guanacaste provincial capital of Liberia to the small town of La Fortuna at the foot of the Arenal volcano.

From these reports the Emergency Commission approximated the route of the UFO. It was first reported spotted over Liberia around 12:15 a.m., spotted over Cañas at 12:16 and made its appearance at the Arenal plant only two minutes later.

After several minutes of hovering over the plant, it sent down its tractor beam at 12:21. Three minutes later, the lights went out all over the country and the UFO immediately abandoned the Arenal plant.

AT about 12:30, Ernesto de la Verdad, manager of the El Volcan restaurant in La Fortuna, reported seeing the UFO hover briefly over Arenal Volcano before disappearing inside the crater.

"We were watching the volcano with some tourists, and all of a sudden we see this glowing object over the crater," de la Verdad told The Tico Times. "At first we thought it had something to do with an eruption, but then we saw we could make out its shape. It looked like a tamal, exactly like my grandmother used to make, except that it glowed."

One alert tourist, April Fuller, from Oshkosh, Wisconsin took a picture of the alien craft.

MINISTER of Public Security Luis Fishman ordered Civil Guardsmen to the top of the volcano to investigate the strange occurrence and enlisted the assistance of tour operator Gabina Hidalgo, who offers a controversial crater tour that many believe to be dangerous (TT, March 20).

President Rafael Angel Calderon told reporters that he had no knowledge of the UFO, but welcomed any positive contributions the aliens could make to the country.

Real 'X-Files' may exist, producer says

■ This 'natural-born skeptic' isn't convinced one way or the other

By Jackie Hyman
For The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Ever wonder how — or even if — the FBI handles cases that involve the paranormal or alien abductions?

Producer Chris Carter did, and the result is *The X-Files*, a Friday night suspense series on the Fox network.

The existence of such files may not be all that far-fetched, says Carter, who created the series, serves as executive producer and wrote five of the first 12 episodes.

"I've talked to people who've been in government institutions and seen drawers full of files about these subjects, the paranormal," he said over breakfast at a sunny Santa Monica cafe where the only being lurking in the background was a waitress with a canafe of coffee.

"I have this coy answer when people say, 'Are there X files?' I say, 'I don't know that there are, but I don't know that there aren't.'"

"I'm a natural-born skeptic," added Carter, 37, whose previous scriptwriting credits were mostly comedy series for Disney Studios. "Someone has to show me something before I believe it. But I've met so many sane and reasonable people who tell me they've had experiences with paranormal phenomena, it chips away at my skepticism."

When the Fox network asked him to propose a series, Carter said he was motivated by a childhood love of the supernatural-tinted mystery series *The Night Stalker*.

"I didn't have any agenda," he said. "I just wanted to create a wildly entertaining show that would scare the pants off you."

"I have this buzz phrase that the writers have to live by," he said. "All the stories have to take place within the realm of extreme possibility."

The X-Files focuses on brilliant but eccentric FBI agent Fox Mulder, played by David Duchovny, who takes it upon himself to investigate unorthodox cases. He is aided by a mysterious high-up (Garry Hardin), who serves



Chris Carter
'Just telling good stories'

as a Deep Throat-style adviser.

Mulder's superiors assign a skeptical agent with a medical degree, Dana Scully (Gillian Anderson), to keep tabs on him and debunk his theories.

The series, filmed in Vancouver, British Columbia, covers subjects from aliens to ghosts to mutant killers and renegade computers. Some strange events turn out to have scientific explanations.

Although the show is not top-rated, it draws well enough to have been picked up for the entire season, and Carter said there has been talk of a second year.

The emphasis is on fast-moving stories and surprise twists that have won over some fans who may not believe in the paranormal.

"I think we're just telling good stories in the suspense genre," Carter said. "The comment I get a

lot is, 'This isn't something I would normally be interested in, but I love your show.'"

One recurring theme is secret

actions by

government agencies, possibly the military or the National Security Council, that interferes with Mulder and Scully's investigations.

"I love that idea and I think it has a certain resonance," Carter said. "That was the thing that was really surprising in my research and in the tests of the pilot (episode), was how pervasive the belief is that the government acts in secretive ways."

He said he and his staff do their

own research rather than employing consultants. The real FBI provided information on procedures and protocols.

"We get the most amazing mail," Carter said. "We get letters from at least two electronic bulletin boards, so we get immediate feedback. It's valuable stuff. I'll say that 95 percent of it is wildly positive."

Despite its subject matter, *The X-Files* tries to avoid graphic violence and the victimization of women, he said.

"There's the hue and cry about violence on television and I'm sensitive to it much as I'm a defender of freedom of the press," he said.

DON'T GRAB GROOM LAND

I oppose the proposed 3,900-acre public land seizure near the Groom Lake, Nev., test facility.

Since 1956, flight test activity never has been out of view to anyone visiting the surrounding areas. I'm sure agents of the Soviet Union did exactly that. The government's mythical game regarding secrecy of U-2 and A-11/A-12 Mach 3+ aircraft, and the past secrecy concerning the shape of the F-117 stealth, are spin-managed baloney. Those aircraft were seen in the sky long before being officially announced by the government.

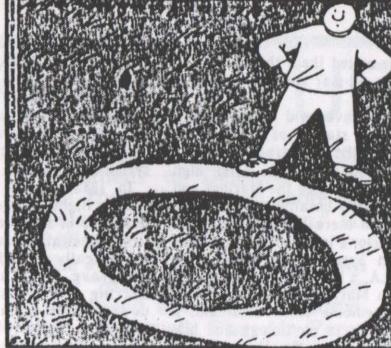
In 1984, the Air Force illegally seized—before Congress approved—89,000 acres of Bureau of Land Management land. Supposedly this was done to make the area secure. But the Air Force failed as shown in the stated need for the new land grab.

Groom is an operationally expensive site for "blackness," where the government hopes to hide great expenditures of money. Yet it is not secret; the Russians are happy to sell their years of satellite photography of the place.

We are told the Cold War is over. We know the defense industry is downsizing and new projects are few. Then why the continued secrecy, expansion of Groom and flying of technicians from Las Vegas and southern California to the area? I thought we were closing bases.

JOHN J. ANDREWS
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

Real Life Adventures



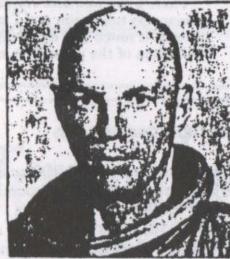
Either (a) you have yet to develop a really good touch with the fertilizer spreader, or (b) your yard is a UFO landing site.

UFO

POTPOURRI

JOHN F. SCHUESSLER
P. O. BOX 58485
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The Houston Post/Wednesday, December 1, 1993



Story Musgrave, a member of NASA's "A-team," became an astronaut in 1967.

He's ready for a close encounter

BY DAN FELDSTEIN
OF THE HOUSTON POST STAFF

Don't be alarmed, but one of four astronauts who will spacewalk to fix the Hubble Space Telescope hopes to see aliens.

"I try to communicate with the life that's out there. I'm serious. It is not that far out," says Story Musgrave.

"When I'm circling around out there, I try in whatever ways I can to get them to come down here and get me."

That's not just a good sense of humor. He means it.

It fits neatly in the personality of a man who has been an astronaut since 1967, has at least six college degrees and takes every class he can find at University of Houston-Clear Lake purely for fun.

Musgrave, 58, is the senior member of the seven-member crew set to launch today on a space shuttle mission to repair the blurry Hubble.

All are veteran space fliers, and some at the space agency

A SUBIACO mother-of-three says she was buzzed by a glowing UFO shaped like the teat of a baby's bottle as she drove to a Yanchep tourist resort.

The woman, 34, was terrified as the object swooped down to just above tree level and tailed her car for several kilometres before swinging away.

The woman, who refused to be identified, is still shaken by the 20-minute encounter and was reluctant to speak to the *Sunday Times*.

Her brother, 27, who was in the car, confirmed that the incident took place on December 31.

Her description of the UFO is similar to the one given by the Knowles family of Maylands

By MATT TRINCA

after an unexplained event on the Nullarbor in 1988.

The Subiaco woman said the object came down on the left-hand side of the car when the pair were driving north on Wanneroo Road at 1am.

"We stopped to get a better look and it was about 500m away. It was shining with lights and I saw a metallic gleam. But it did not look like a plane or a helicopter," she said.

"I was terrified, frozen to the wheel. My brother got out of the car, then I shouted at him to get back in and we sped off.

"He turned around and it was following us about 1km behind and above the road.

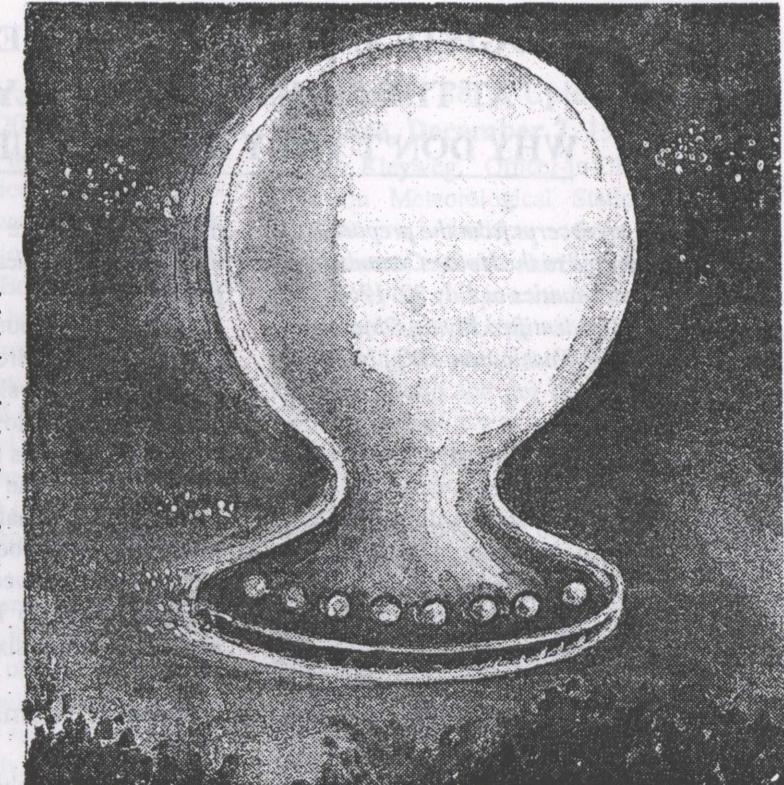
"Then it swung off to the left again as we turned onto the Yanchep road and kept pace with us for a while, then disappeared."

She contacted police, air traffic controllers and staff at RAAF Pearce who were unable to give her an explanation for the sighting.

"I am convinced we saw a UFO," she said. "It did not behave like a plane or a helicopter and it was an incredible shape."

UFO researcher Brian Richards said he was investigating the case and was struck by its similarity to other reported sightings.

Mr Richards, of the UFO Data Collection Centre, said the descriptions given by the Subiaco woman and the Knowles family appeared to be close.



An artist's impression of the object seen by a Subiaco woman.

Herald Sun, Saturday, January 15, 1994

World

Congress reopens UFO mystery

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico — The investigative arm of Congress is examining a well-known UFO case to determine whether a government cover-up followed the 1947 crash of a mysterious object in New Mexico, a congressman said.

US Representative Mr Steve Schiff said he had asked the General Accounting Office to investigate after he received letters from people who claimed to have seen the wreckage at the crash site.

The New Mexico Republican said yesterday a GAO investigator

was "getting stonewalled" by the Department of Defence. "That made them that much more interested in the investigation," Mr Schiff said.

The July 2, 1947, crash is known as the "Roswell Incident" because it happened about 120km northwest of Roswell. The Air Force said the wreckage came from a weather balloon equipped with a radar-reflecting gadget.

Others said it was a flying saucer that crashed and government teams whisked away the wreckage and perhaps the bodies of aliens.

They said the incident was the start of a government secrecy program that had hidden proof of extra-terrestrial visitors for more than 40 years.

Mr Michael Lindemann, a UFO researcher from Santa Barbara, California, said the elements of the Roswell case "go a very, very long way to proving we have had alien visitation".

But UFO debunker Mr Philip Klass, of Washington, said there "isn't a shred of evidence" that a flying saucer was recovered at Roswell.

— AP

METEOROLOGISTS AND WEATHER OBSERVERS LOOK AT THE SKIES FREQUENTLY WHY DON'T THEY EVER SEE UFOs?

This article is an excerpt from the prepared statement submitted to the House Committee on Science and Astronautics at July 29, 1968, Symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects, Rayburn Building, Washington, D.C., by James E. McDonald.

1. Case 26. Richmond, Va., April 1947.

To begin an answer to that rhetorical question, we might consider an observation made by a weather observer at the Richmond, Va., U. S. Weather Bureau station, about two months before the first national publicity concerning UFOs. Walter A. Minczewski, whom I located at the same Weather Bureau office where he made the sighting in 1947, was making a pilot balloon observation, when he spotted a silvery object that entered the field of his theodolite (which was trained on the balloon he had released). In the account that Minczewski sent me, he stated that "the bottom was flat and the top was slightly dome-shaped"; and when he tried to see it with naked eye, he could not spot it. (Typical pilot balloon theodolites have magnifications of about 20 to 25, and angular fields that are usually about a degree across.) It was a "clear bright morning" when he spotted the object, and it lay to his NNE at an elevation of about 45 degrees. Whether Minczewski really saw the upper surface or formed his mental impressions without realizing that the

theodolite may have inverted the image is now unclear, and my questioning did not settle that point.

Discussion. A report of this sighting is in the official files, a circumstance which greatly surprised Minczewski, since he had discussed it only with his fellow workers. In the ensuing two decades, he has never again seen anything like it. Clearly, the probability of an object crossing the small angular field of a meteorological theodolite is quite low, if only chance were involved here. He tried to track it but lost it, due to its high angular velocity, after about five or six seconds, he recalled.

2. Case 27. Yuma, Ariz., February 4, 1953.

Weather Bureau observer S. H. Brown was tracking a pilot balloon at 6000 ft over Yuma at 1:50 p.m. MST on 2/4/53 when first one and then a second unidentified object moved across his theodolite field, somewhat as in the preceding case. I obtained an account of this sighting from V. B. Cotten, Meteorologist-in-Charge at the Yuma station. The full account is too long for recapitulation here. Both objects appeared to be of the order of a minute of arc in diameter and appeared "almost round, a solid dull pure white color, with a thin white mist completely edging each object." The first object moved into the optical field and curved upwards to the west, with the theodolite

oriented to about 53 degrees elevation, 157 degrees azimuth. About 20 seconds later, a second object entered the field and moved in and out of the field erratically two times, to rejoin the first object. Brown was able to track the pair thereafter, as they jointly changed both azimuth and elevation. Because he had a stopwatch at hand for the balloon observation (which he did not complete because of following the unknown objects), he was able to determine that he followed the pair of objects for five minutes (1350 to 1355), until he lost sight of them against a cirrus cloud deck to the SSW. At the termination of the observation, his instrument was pointed to 29 degrees elevation, 204 degrees azimuth.

Discussion. This case is carried as Unidentified in the official files (see Ref. 7 for official summary). At times these objects lay near the sun's position in the sky; which might suggest forward-angle scattering of sunlight by airborne particles. However, initially, the objects were detected at angular distance of about 40 degrees from the solar position, which would not yield appreciable low-angle scattering. Furthermore, if these were airborne scatterers, they would almost certainly be separated by random turbulence within as long a period as five minutes, yet the observer's report indicates that they manoeuvred together within angular separations of the order of the roughly one-degree field of such theodolites. The fact that the second object did go out of the field only to return to the vicinity of the first object strains the airborne-particle hypothesis. Thus the official categorization of Unidentified seems reasonable here.

3. Case 28. Upington, Cape Province, December 7, 1954.

R. H. Kleyweg, Officer-in-Charge of the Upington Meteorological Station, had just released a balloon for upper-wind measurement and was shielding his eyes from the sun trying to spot the balloon to get his theodolite on it. Seeing an object east of the sun, moving slowly to the west, he thought it was his balloon and got the theodolite on it, only to find that it was white, whereas he had released a red balloon. An account in the Natal Mercury, January 28, 1955, quoted Kleyweg as saying that it seemed "like a half-circle with the sun reflecting off the sloping top." He had no difficulty following it for about three minutes, but then it began to accelerate and, after another minute, he was unable to track fast enough to keep it in optical view (Ref. 10).

Discussion. Kleyweg was quoted in the cited press source as saying, "I have followed thousands of meteorological balloons. This object was no balloon." A South African student doing graduate work in my Department, Petrus DuToit, has confirmed this sighting, having had an account of it directly from Kleyweg. An accelerating airborne half-circular object with sloping top seems best categorized as an unidentified flying object.

4. Case 29. Arrey, New Mexico, April 24, 1949.

Charles B. Moore, Jr., was with four enlisted Navy personnel making a pilot balloon observation preparatory to release of a Skyhook balloon at the White Sands Proving Ground in the middle of the morning of 4/24/49. The balloon was airborne and was under

observation by one of the men when Moore became aware that a white object which he took to be the balloon was in a part of the sky well away from where the theodolite operator had his instrument trained. As Moore has explained directly to me in discussing this famous case, he thought the operator had lost the balloon. Moore took over, swung the 25-power scope onto the "balloon" he had spotted, and found that it was in fact an ellipsoidal white object moving at a rapid angular velocity towards the NE. With stopwatch and recording forms at hand, it was possible for the team of five men to secure some semi-quantitative data on this sighting; Moore disengaged the vernier drives to track manually, and followed the object as it sped from the southwest into the northeast skies. At its closest approach, it was moving at about 5 degrees/sec. Just before Moore lost it in the distance to the northeast, its angular elevation began to increase, as if it were climbing, a quite significant point. The object had a horizontal length about two to three times greater than its vertical thickness. Moore never got a sufficiently clear view to identify any finer details if any were present. Another balloon was immediately released to check the slim possibility that a high-speed jet from SW to NE might have carried some airborne object across the sky; but the winds were blowing more or less at right angles to the object's path to the 93,000 ft level, and were rather weak (Ref. 10). The angular diameter of the object was estimated at about a minute of arc (which in the 25-power theodolite would appear to Moore as about three-fourths the apparent size of the moon).

Discussion. Moore's sighting is carried as

Unidentified in official files. Menzel (Ref. 24) says of it:

"This incident, kept in the classified files for more than two years, presents no serious difficulty to the person who understands the optics of the earth's atmosphere. The air can, under special conditions, produce formations similar to lenses. And, just as a burning glass can project the sun into a point of light, so can these lenses of air - imperfect though they are -- form an image. What Moore saw was an out-of-focus and badly astigmatic image of the balloon above."

It would be interesting to hear Menzel present a quantitative defence of that astonishing disposition of this interesting sighting. Here five witnesses, with aid of a tracking device giving better than rough angular-coordinate information on the movements of an unknown object, observe the object move through an arc of over 90 degrees that took it into a part of the sky about that same large angular distance from the real balloon's location, and Menzel adduces a "lens of air" to explain it away. Astronomers find atmospheric scintillation a very serious observational problem because stellar images are often erratically shifted by tens of seconds of arc from their mean position as a result of atmospheric turbulence effects. In the 5/24/49 Moore sighting, Menzel is proposing that the atmosphere carried a refracted image of the balloon northeastward at a steady rate of excursion that finally totalled several thousand times the magnitude of refractive angular image-displacements known to occur with bad seeing. I feel obliged

to repeat an observation I have made before: If the transmission properties of the Earth's atmosphere were as anomalous as Menzel assumes in his handling of UFO observations, he and his colleagues would be out of business. The official categorization of Unidentified for the Moore sighting seems inescapable. It might be added that, over the years, there have been very many UFO observations of significant nature from the vicinity of White Sands Proving Ground, many involving instrumental tracking, many made by experienced observers. A long and impressive list of them could easily be compiled, yet all have been slowly lost from official cognizance by a process that is characteristically at the heart of response to the UFO problem.

5. Case 30. Admiralty Bay, Antarctica, March 16, 1961.

This listing of UFO sightings by meteorologists could be extended very considerably by drawing on my file of such cases. To cite just one more that also indicates the global scale of the UFO phenomena, a very unusual luminous unidentified aerial object seen by a meteorologist and others aboard the U.S.S. Glacier at about 6:15 p.m. on 3/16/61 in the Antarctic will be mentioned. I have quite recently received, through French UFO investigator Rene Fouere, a rather detailed summary of this sighting by Brazilian meteorologist Rubens J. Villela, whose earlier account I had seen but paid little attention to (Ref. 10). The point I had missed, prior to reading Villela's detailed description of the circumstances of the sighting, was the very important feature of a low cloud overcast

present at about 1500 ft above the sea. With three shipmates on the flying bridge, Villela suddenly saw

"a multicolored luminous object crossing the sky,"

an object which for a moment they took to be an unusual meteor.

"It was egg-shaped, colored mainly reddish at first, and travelled slowly from NE to SW at about 50 degrees above the horizon, on a straight horizontal trajectory. From its frontal part, several multicolored, perfectly straight 'rays' extended backwards, diverging outwards at an angle; the colors of these rays changed continually, predominantly green, red and blue. Most striking of all, it left a long trail of orange color in the form of a perfectly straight tube which gave the distinct impression of being hollow, faintly comparable to a neon light,"

Villela stated in his summary, Then,

"Suddenly the object divided in two. It was not an explosion, it was a controlled division in two equal parts, one behind the other, each egg-shaped as before and each radiating outwards its V-shaped lateral rays. Then the object shone with a slightly stronger light, changing color to blue and white, and disappeared completely. That's it -- just disappeared, abruptly."

His account emphasizes that the boundaries of the object(s) were definite and sharp, not diffuse. Villela's account indicates that a total of six persons were above-decks and saw this

striking phenomenon. It is to be emphasized that in the estimated 10 seconds that this lasted, the object was moving below a cloud deck that lay only about 1500 feet above the sea, so that, for the reported elevation angle of about 50 degrees, the slant range from observers to object was perhaps of the order of 2000 ft. Villela had the subjective impression that the egg-shaped initial form was about as big as a small airplane.

Discussion. In a recent book aimed at showing that a majority of the most interesting UFOs are an atmospheric-electrical plasma related to ball lightning, Philip J. Klass (Ref. 39) cites the preceding case as a good example of the sort of observation which he feels he can encompass in his "plasma-UFO" hypothesis. To the extent that he treats only the break-up into two parts, he has some observational basis for trying to interpret this as something akin to ball lightning. But almost at that point the similarity ends as far as meteorologically recognized characteristics of ball lightning go. The highly structured nature of the object and its rays, its size, its horizontal trajectory, its presence in a foggy area with low stratiform clouds free of thunderstorm activity scarcely suggest anything like ball lightning. Nor does this account suggest any meteoric phenomenon at sub-cloud altitudes. I would regard this as just one more of a baffling array of inexplicable aerial phenomena which span so wide a range of characteristics that it is taxing to try to invent any single hypothesis to rationalize them all. The full spectrum of UFO phenomena will, I predict, come as a shock to every scientist who takes the necessary time to look into the wealth of reports accumulated in various archives over

the past two decades and more. Official assertions to the effect that UFO reports in no way defy explanation in terms of present scientific and technological knowledge are, in my opinion, entirely unjustified. The Villela sighting seems a case in point. And meteorologists do see UFOs, as the foregoing cases should suggest.



BY JOHN F. SCHUESSLER
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HOUSTON, TEXAS 77258-8485

WATER: ITS SIGNIFICANCE TO UFOs.

THE FLICKERING BLUE FLAME AND MISSING WATER. — Case No 73 Cape, South Africa.

Mrs P.L. lives with her husband in Kommetjie, on the Cape coast of the Atlantic seaboard. Kommetjie is a small village, mostly with holiday homes that are used for 2-3 months of the year. But there are more and more permanent residents, though it is not highly populated and there are a lot of open spaces.

One night in late November of 1991, Mrs P.L. could not sleep because of the irritating sound of the pool filter outside her bedroom. At about 2 a.m. she decided to get up and switch it off.

Her house is a pleasant structure, with an entrance hall leading into the lounge, and from there, glass doors open onto a pool area which has been enclosed on three sides, with a covering roof.

As Mrs P.L. came out of the lounge into the closed pool area, she saw a flickering flame, about 30cm (12 inches) high and of an intense blue colour. She thought it was an electrical fault but as she went closer she could see the flame was not coming from the filter itself; it was separate and burning in the sand which surrounded the base of the filter, a good few inches away from the actual machine.

After about 15 seconds, the flame just vanished.

When she looked up, prior to returning to bed, she saw a similar flame in her neighbour's window. There are no other houses around there, just this one other house to the left of hers and diagonal to it.

At first she thought it was a reflection and looked around to see what it could be reflecting. But there was no traffic about, or anything that might cause the flame. When she looked again, she could see the flame getting smaller and smaller. Then she took fright because it was all so strange, and ran back to bed and pulled the blankets over her head.

NEWS FROM AFRICA

Next morning, her husband got up early and when he walked outside to have his breakfast on the patio, he could see that the water in the swimming pool was well below the normal water level. He knew he had filled it up the night before; there was no chance of a leak and he, as a builder, had checked it thoroughly. He estimated that about 2000 litres had been lost out of the pool's capacity of 20 000 litres.

The weather was still and calm; there were no clouds, so it was not a lightning strike. There was no fault with the filter either; it was working perfectly, if a little noisy. There was one single outlet for the pool, but no water had spilled.

As an experienced builder, Mr L. would have known if there was anything untoward about the pool, but he was quite adamant that, apart from the missing water, the pool was in perfect condition.

COMMENT:

In UFO AFRINEWS N° 4 (pp 17-19), we discussed the UFO Interest in water, and what possible significance this could have.

The above case seems to be a typical example of 'water loss' to some unknown object. In this instance no UFO was seen and the dancing blue flame can by no means be interpreted as a UFO, although several of the cases quoted in AFRINEWS N° 4 had no visible UFO, so it does not seem to be a pre-requisite of the phenomenon. The basic research here is on the LOSS OF WATER, with some untoward event connected either directly or indirectly, with it.

UFO
AFRINEWS

ADDRESS.
All correspondence to
GEMINI, P.O.BOX MP 49
HARARE ZIMBABWE.

Nu 8 SEPT. 1993

- Australian Sighting Reports -

- New South Wales -

Date/Time	Location	Details
21.8.1993 9:45 pm.	CARINGBAH/ CRONULLA SYDNEY	2 shiny grey objects-like a football or spinning top with big orange/gold light. There were red and blue lights glittering on top. No noise. Objects were seen travelling towards the sea. One descended behind a row of trees, later rising and changing direction. The other kept going in original direction, tilting slightly as it moved away.
1.9.1993 9:45 pm.	HORNSBY AREA,SYDNEY	About 5 brilliant silver objects, like frisbees, metallic. Objects were circling and darting about high in the sky for over an hour-altitude and speed varied at times.
24.9.1993 10:30 pm.	CAMDEN AREA NEAR SYDNEY	4 cylinder shaped objects-appeared as bright white lights, with a surrounding haze, from a distance. The first 2 had 4 or 5 blue lights on each side - the other 2 appeared to have blue, red and orange lights rotating around them. Objects were first seen travelling at a low altitude and very fast speed. They stopped and hovered for some time and then moved erratically within a small area.
26.9.1993 3:00 am.	ALEXANDRIA, SYDNEY	5 enormous "fireballs"- no trail - no noise. 3 objects streaked straight across the sky from one horizon to the other, followed by 2 identical objects 20 minutes later.
4.10.1993 9:15 pm.	MACKAY,QLD.	Bright, luminous pale green oblong object, misty around edges with short trail of orange sparks. No noise. About helicopter size. Travelling slowly east to west just above the trees. After a while slowly descended and appeared to disintegrate mid-air. No storm or electrical activity in area at the time.
12.10.1993 7:45 pm.	NAROOMA-NSW SOUTH COAST	4 dull red/orange objects-like flares-no noise. 2 objects were first seen hovering together over inlet. One then headed South at medium speed - the other went due West, over very lonely country, at incredible speed. Later two more objects were seen going in a Northerly direction - very slow speed and high altitude.

Sighting Reports

continued

Date/Time	Location	Details
11.11.1993 8:15 pm.	BRISBANE WATERS - CENTRAL COAST, NSW	2 large orange "flames" - 1/8 size of moon-no noise. Objects kept equidistant at all times. They came from the se to w at fairly low height and slow speed, eventually stopping and hovering for some time. Witnesses in different locations claim their lights went out when objects appeared and came back on after objects left.
11.11.1993 10:00 pm. 12.11.1993 11:00 pm. 18.11.1993 midnight	NEAR BATEMANS BAY,-SOUTH COAST NSW.	Large silver/grey egg shaped object - appeared to be rotating - 2 red lights on top -red/green/yellow/white lights around middle, (like the rings around Saturn) Seen hovering in sky, over coast, about 3 miles away. At times it would zig-zag up and down and then hover again. Witnesses were quite frightened, and noted that at one stage they were sure they could hear a buzzing noise.
25.12.1993 9:10 pm.	GUNNEDAH,NSW	Bright orange light - no noise. going in straight line SW to NW- fairly low altitude and slow speed. Not consistent with prevailing winds.
23.1.1994 4:30 am.	GLENCOE, SA	Enormous object with 2 revolving amber lights on either side and a ruby coloured light moving backwards and forwards between the two. No noise noticed. object first sighted travelling W to E above the horizon off - and parallel to the coast, at an incredible speed. The object then turned and headed NE, inland - at a slower speed. It then veered East.A few minutes later 2 small white lights were seen - one travelling W to E out to sea, and the second seen inland following the same flight path of the original large object.
1.1.1994 5:30 am.	BALLARAT - VICTORIA	Large object-red flashing light on top-white light under-no noise. Witnesses saw object hovering at 600m altitude about 800m to side of main rd. - pulled over and turned off headlights - object slowly took off. Duration 5 minutes. Further details TBA - was reported to Hamilton police.
1.1.1994 9:10 pm.	TOWNSVILLE	Very bright star size white light with green/red tinge-intermittent irregular blinking-no noise. Very high in atmosphere-much faster than any plane or satellite-from E to W horizon- slight change of direction. Duration-10 to 15 seconds.

Reports

continued

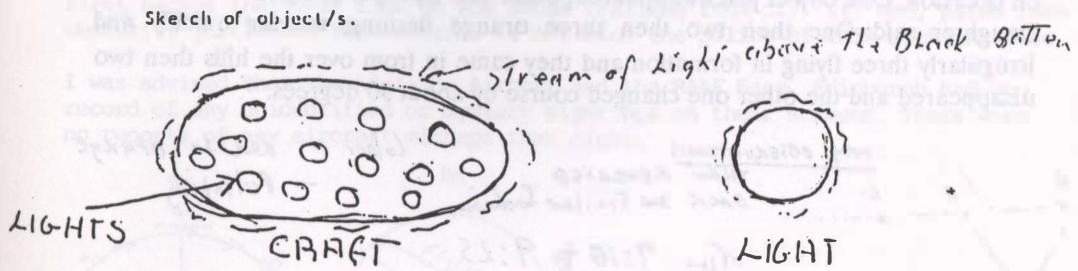
Date/Time	Location	Details
2.1.1994 9:30 pm.	LAKE AT BUDGEWOI-CENTRAL COAST - N.S.W.	Very bright orange light-emitting rays-2 x star size-no noise. Came from NE towards SW-turned S along lake-at end of lake turned E. Turns were gradual but definite. Helicopter speed and height-below cloud cover. Moving opposite to what little wind existed. 4 minute duration/several witnesses.

For these reports, we are indebted to Moira McGhee of I.N.U.F.O.R whose address is P.O.Box 783, Kogarah, Sydney NSW. 2217.

THE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA. UFO
AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL UFO FLYING SAUCER RESEARCH INC.
GPO BOX 2004 ADELAIDE SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5001

Mrs E.A.Crowe at 1-30am while walking along Government Road 12 kms south east of Tailem Bend. She said, there was an apparent craft in the sky travelling in an erratic manner going in different directions and different speeds, in one instance appearing to go backwards. It also produced a round light [but no beam] at ground level just in front of me about three yards in width. I was frightened and my hair actually stood on end, the light was between myself and my dog who was clearly agitated as well. It was a long black object and zig-zag back and forth when it travelling upwards into the cloud cover, I watched for 15 minutes.

Sketch of object/s.



Reports continued

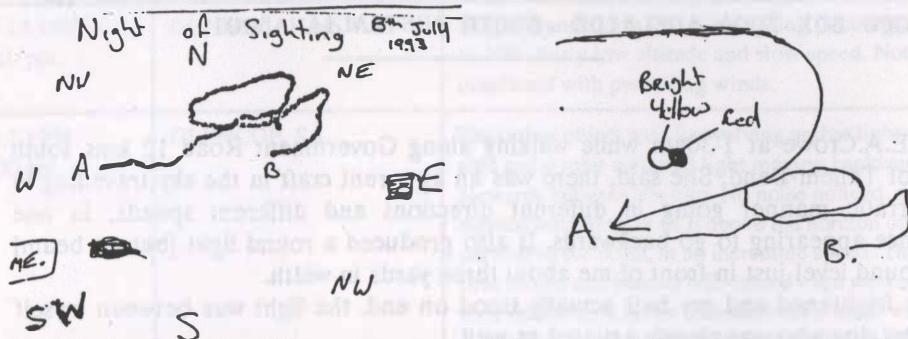
On the 10th April, 1993, at 7:50pm Mr Toby Peart at Maslins Beach saw with four other friends one multi-colour star shape light, it zig-zagged and changed shape a number of times along with the colours.

If standing underneath it I would predict it was a 1,000feet up, no apparent pattern towards its movements.

When showing other people they too noticed it's movements and we could say it's movements and agree on the directions. However due to the distance to sketch the object would be a mere dot.

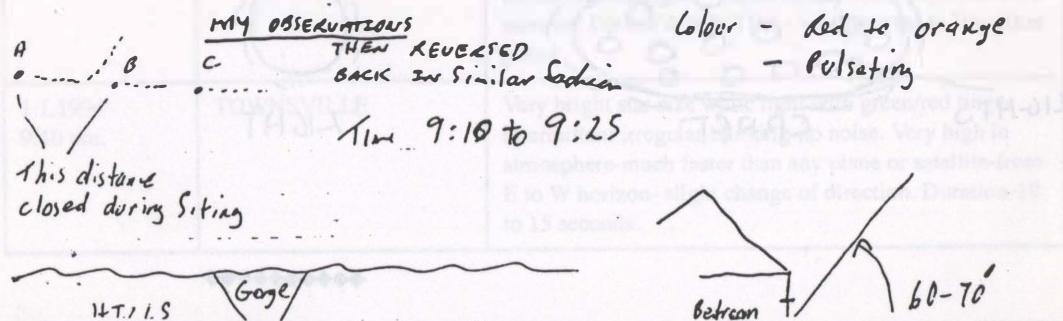
Thursday the 8th July, 93. Para Hills and the time not given Mr Ric Morgan saw the yellow/red light moving around in the sky.

He said, Ceiling approximately 14-16 thousand feet, it started in A position then moved N.E. for about an inch to two and a half inches [visual scale] did a circle first changing from N.E. to North to West to S.W. then back to N.E. in a 2 inch circle then headed N.E. about inch to 2 inches, then dropped rapidly about quarter to half inch then went S.W. half inch to one inch and disappeared behind thinish cloud or took off at great speed.



On July the 16th the father of a young girl sent the following report because he also saw the three orange to red spheres which did a right angle change in course on occasion. One object just disappeared, other two flew out of sight.

Daughter said:-One then two then three orange flashing, moving quickly and irregularly three flying in formation and they came in from over the hills then two disappeared and the other one changed course by about 90 degrees.



Two brothers who do not wish their name to be mention on the 17th of July took video of light moving in the sky north of Adelaide and the time was 7:00PM.

The film was taken to Melbourne by Colin Norris and shown nationally by TV channel 10 and was also discussed over radio at length.

Craig one of the brothers has given this report; I spotted the light after parking car in carport, called out to my brother who was inside, he came out, saw it then phoned a friend down the road who came outside saw it and came to our place, my brother and myself took around ten photos and video.

The photos didn't turn out but we got a couple of minutes on video. We felt very excited and shaky and knew it had to be something. It was like a ball of flame with no noise, trail, smoke.

It travelled very slow from north east to west slowed stopped moved to the south stopped then looked as though it was going out away from us, getting smaller, looked as though it was blinking and just got smaller till it disappeared.

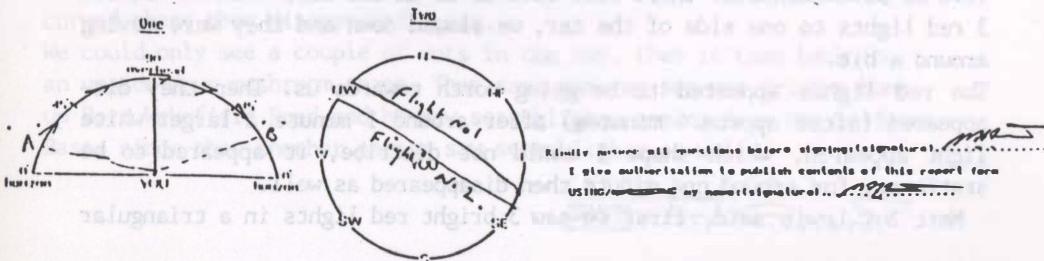
At about 10.20pm on Saturday 24th July, 1993, I was standing outside at the rear of my house at 10 Finsterwald Way, FAIRVIEW PARK talking by phone to a friend of mine.

As I looked in a northwesterly direction I saw in the sky, just above the tree tops, what appeared to be a fire ball. It was approaching at what I would describe as the average speed of a light aircraft. It was flying at about the same altitude. I thought it was a disabled aircraft. I terminated my telephone conversation and called the Police (I am a Police Officer).

I called to, and was joined by, my wife, two daughters and a third child. We all watched this 'ball of fire' as it made its way directly overhead in an arc and across the sky, paling into obscurity/infinity just above the horizon in an east-southeasterly direction from where I was standing.

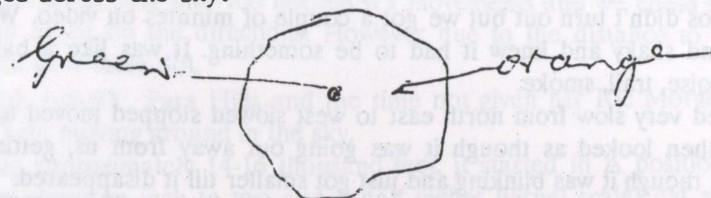
After the object had passed we all went back inside and sat in the rear room of the house keeping a casual watch on the sky while we conducted a 'de-briefing' exercise. At 11.00pm precisely, my 14 y.o. daughter drew our attention to the sky. It was another object - 'ball of fire' - crossing the sky on a path slightly south of the first. In all other respects it appeared similar to the first except that this time we saw smoke trailing from it. It, too, paled into obscurity just above the horizon. I notified the police of this sighting also.

I was advised that the Adelaide Airport and the RAAF Base, Edinburgh had no record of any unidentified or mystery sightings on their screens. There were no reports of any aircraft mishaps that night.



Suzanne J.McLuckie a Medical Assistant—RAAF on the 10th July 93. with four other people at 9-15pm saw one orange and green ball-like light in the sky at approximately 60 degrees.

Looking at the object with the naked eye it appeared about the size of a star and bright orange in colour. It seemed to move smoothly across the skyline. When we looked at it through the binoculars it appeared orange with a movable green centre. As the object moved, it jiggled and zig-zagged across the sky.



AT 8-50PM ON THE 11TH AUGUST MR T.M.HURST SAW AN OVAL SILVER OBJECT, BIGGER THAN A CESSNA PLANE FROM HIS BACK YARD AT CROYDON.

After Tom had seen object on the Wednesday it was hard to understand what he had seen but on the following Tuesday 17th morning at 3-10am I saw what I believed to be similar object to his, same location. But different circumstances.

After I had seen first object approximately 2-3 seconds a second object past over the same as first. Maybe a minute had past then I spotted small plane in sky approximately over beach line. Objects were moving in direction towards plane, on the same night I saw a falling star objects were not of same appearance.

On the 28th August at 7-30pm two people saw some objects 20kms north of MALLALA in South Australia and have given their report separately.

Tom Savis said there were 3 red and one white the three red were star size and the white moon size he watched the sighting for approximately five to seven minutes. There were five of us in the car, when we noticed 3 red lights to one side of the car, we slowed down and they were moving around a bit.

The red lights appeared to be going north towards us. Then they disappeared (after approx.4 minutes) after around 1 minute a larger white light appeared, which shape I could not describe, it appeared to be stationary for around one minute then disappeared as well.

Matt S.C.Lewis said, first we saw 3 bright red lights in a triangular

formation which were moving what seemed to be back and forth and up and down unlike an aircraft. The distance between the end two red lights was much wider than that of an aircraft.

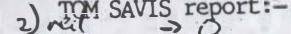
Then the red lights disappeared and a white glow appeared in the same area, the red lights disappeared. This moved slowly S/W and disappeared.

Sketch of object/s.

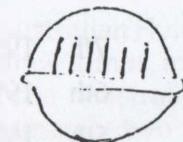
1) red



2) TOM SAVIS report:-



3) white



o o ←

o

start

→ o

1min gap

→ 4 mins

1min
appearance last

Sketch of object/s.

1. first 3 red lights



Matt Lewis report:-

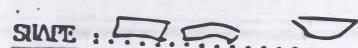
2. white glow



Daphne L.Moore with two friends saw four different shape objects or lights come and disappear, they watched for 15 minutes and the time was 12-05am, the date 7th September, 93.

Daphne said, we watched it for about fifteen minutes, in that time it started with an oblong shape, it was not a solid shape, it was foggy then it just seem to fade away then came back in the next slightly curved shape then disappeared again.

We could only see a couple of dots in the sky, then it came back in an upside down mushroom shape. That same time my son was driving home up Port Wakefield Road and he saw searchlights coming from the Airforce Base, since then another person saw searchlights as well.





MEMBER
International Committee for U.F.O. Research
P.O. Box 43, Moorabbin, Vic. 3189, Australia

DISCUSSION NIGHT

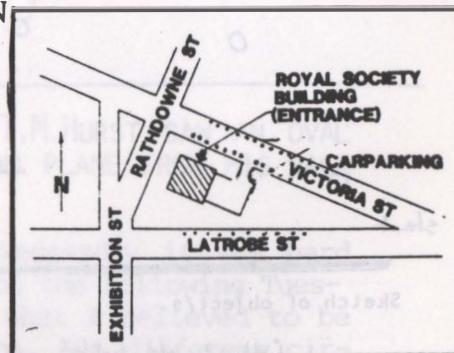
For Your Diary

MARCH	7th 1994	DISCUSSION
JUNE	6th 1994	"
SEPTEMBER	5th 1994	"
DECEMBER	5th 1994	A.G.M.

TIME 8.00p.m.

WHERE "The Royal Society of Victoria"
Victoria Street, Melbourne (SEE MAP)

COST FULL MEMBERSHIP NO CHARGE
ASSOCIATE MEMBER \$2.00
NON-MEMBER \$5.00



SUBSCRIPTION RATES

V.U.F.O.R.S.

FULL MEMBERSHIP: \$20

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- Free Supper

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OVERSEAS: \$US20

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NON MEMBER: \$5

- Meeting Entry Only

SOCIETY HISTORY

1957

At this point perhaps it may be opportune to present a brief history of the Victorian U.F.O. Research Society.

The earliest U.F.O. group to form in Australia was the "Australian Flying Saucer Bureau" under the direction of Edgar Jarrold and Andrew Tomas, in the early 1950s. At the same time, Fred Stone inaugurated the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" in Adelaide. After approximately two years the Bureau closed down and was regarded as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" under Andrew Tomas. This shortly broke from Adelaide and became the "Australian U.F.O. Investigation Centre" with Dr. Clifford at its head until 1958, when the Presidency passed to Dr. Lindtner.

The "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society (Victorian Branch)" was formed on the 17th February, 1957 as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" and later that year was re-organised as the "Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society" with Mr. Peter E. Norris L.L.B. as President. In 1968 the name was again altered – this time to the "Victorian U.F.O. Research Society".

During this time, the Society has published various papers and is probably best known for its publication Australian Flying Saucer Review, curtailed in 1972 due to high costs and subsequently superseded by the Australian U.F.O. Bulletin and at one stage sponsored and produced a quarter-hour program on a Melbourne radio station under the heading of "The Truth Behind Flying Saucers".

In 1978, following the resignation of Mr. Peter Norris the current executive, Mrs. Judith Magee, Messrs. Paul Norman and Clive Yates, was placed in control, ensuring the continuing prosperity of V.U.F.O.R.S. The Society has held a dispassionate attitude on U.F.O.s, claiming it is a scientific problem deserving closer attention. It has also met regularly in general meetings and discussion nights and maintained the largest U.F.O. library in the southern hemisphere. Unfortunately, the loss of books, probably due to the high cost of postage has forced V.U.F.O.R.S. to discontinue this service to members.

Membership of this Society – which maintains the largest membership of any U.F.O. organisation in the Southern Hemisphere – is open to all who are genuinely interested in the subject.

THE AUSTRALIAN U.F.O. BULLETIN

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